

The Utility Board of Trustees of Laurens, Iowa met in regular session at the Municipal Building, 272 N. Third Street, Laurens, Iowa, at 3:00 p.m. on the above date. Present were Trustees Jerry Runneberg and Ben Storms. Also present was General Manager Chad Cleveland.

Motion by Trustee Storms and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to amend the October 23, 2023 regular meeting agenda by adding:

- 11a. Set Date for Public Hearing on 2023 Budget Amendment
- 11b. Set Date for Public Hearing on 2024 Budget
- 11c. Memorial Resolution for Trustee Richard Main

Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2023 Board meeting. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to approve the summary of receipts for September 2023 in the amount of \$839,978.66 and the list of expenses for September 2023 in the amount of \$311,696.97. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**Summary of Receipts**

A/R- Electric	\$ 272,391.56
A/R- Communications	\$ 58,829.75
Merchandise/Services- Electric	\$ 3,135.00
Merchandise/Services- Communications	\$ 66.00
Carrier Access Fees- Communications	\$ 2,733.22
NIMECA Power Bill Credit- Electric	\$ 439,624.38
Deposits- Electric	\$ 1,750.00
Deposits- Communications	\$ 436.00
RESCO Deferred Patronage- Electric	\$ 607.00
Marathon Energy Sales- Electric	\$ 9,720.29
Tower Lease- Communications	\$ 918.00
Attachment H Revenues- Electric	\$ 34,244.04
IUB Assessment Refund Interest- Electric	\$ 18.43
Lifeline Broadband Reimbursement- Communications	\$ 19.00
Lifeline Voice Reimbursement- Communications	\$ 11.00
Miscellaneous- Communications	\$ 59.87
<u>Lumen Credit Refund- Communications</u>	<u>\$ 15,415.12</u>
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 839,978.66</b>

Electric Receipts	\$ 761,490.70
<u>Communications Receipts</u>	<u>\$ 78,487.96</u>
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 839,978.66</b>

**List of Expenses**

A&M Laundry	Dust Mops & Mats	\$	133.92
AFLAC	Employee Contributions	\$	299.84
Aureon	CALEA/SS7/Transport	\$	562.22
Avesis	Group Vision Insurance	\$	113.21
Bally Sports North	Programming Fees	\$	1,102.95
Big 10 Network	Programming Fees	\$	410.40

Calix Inc.	Operations Cloud	\$	494.34
CDS Global	Credit Card Processing Fees	\$	38.40
Cleveland, Chad	Meeting Expenses	\$	243.66
CMBA Architects	Storage Building Project	\$	7,651.53
Community State Bank	Service Charges	\$	116.60
Consortia Consulting	Consulting Contract	\$	2,280.00
Customers	Deposit/Credit Refunds	\$	120.17
Department of Energy	WAPA Power Bill	\$	41,608.10
Display Systems International	Programming Fees	\$	165.76
Echo Group	Cable Ties	\$	157.80
Employee Benefit Systems	Self-Funding- Administration	\$	120.00
Employee Benefit Systems	Self-Funding- Claims	\$	2,221.91
Fiserv	Credit Card Processing	\$	60.57
Fuchs, Don	Storm Drain Repair	\$	245.23
GFC Leasing	Canon Copier Lease	\$	143.32
Goldfield Telecom	FTTP Project- E7 Install Kit	\$	3,652.51
Grainger	CAT6/RJ45 Inline Couplers	\$	50.98
Gray Media Group	Programming Fees	\$	804.00
Gworks	Software Conversion Data Pulls	\$	5,550.00
Hearst Television	Programming Fees	\$	1,477.35
ICMA RC	Employee Contributions	\$	1,000.00
Internal Revenue Service	Payroll Taxes	\$	10,846.85
Interstate TRS Fund	TRS Fund Assessment	\$	228.48
Iowa Department of Revenue	Sales Tax	\$	6,181.05
Iowa Department of Revenue	State Withholding	\$	1,545.27
Iowa Public Employees Retirement System	IPERS Contributions	\$	6,720.83
Laurens, City of	Utility Billing	\$	97,061.72
Laurens Food Pride	Supplies	\$	99.65
Laurens House of Print	Paper	\$	24.61
Laurens Municipal Power & Communications	Communications Bill	\$	347.76
Laurens Municipal Utilities	Utility Bill	\$	103.04
Laurens Plumbing	Supplies	\$	67.69
Laurens Sun	Publications/Advertising	\$	742.63
Long Lines	Communication Services	\$	10,120.85
Lumen Access Billing	Transport Fees	\$	.35
Lumen Lexcis	Directory Listings	\$	36.45
Merchant Bankcard	Credit Card Processing	\$	1,021.59
Messenger	Advertising	\$	115.00
Mid-America Communications II	FTTP Project- CO Services	\$	272.30
MidAmerican Energy	Neal 4 Operations	\$	32,000.00
National Content & Technology Cooperative	Programming/TiVo/ACA	\$	13,078.64
Nexstar Broadcasting	Programming Fees	\$	1,514.31
NIMECA	Property Taxes	\$	350.50
North American Numbering Plan	E911 Numbering Admin Fee	\$	25.00
Office Elements	Office Supplies	\$	30.83
Payroll	Salaried, Hourly & Overtime	\$	28,674.08
Petty Cash	Postage/PO Box Keys	\$	18.49
PLIC-SBD Grand Island	Life/Disability Insurance	\$	731.47
Plymouth County Treasurer	Property Taxes	\$	54.50
Pocahontas County 911	E911 Fees	\$	863.10
Pocahontas County Treasurer	Property Taxes	\$	3,523.50

Pop Media	Programming Fees	\$	37.23
Postmaster	Postage- Utility Billing	\$	380.18
Pro Cooperative	Vehicle Fuel	\$	665.30
R&D Industries	Network Support	\$	115.00
Record Democrat	Advertising	\$	50.25
Richardson's Service	Rislone/Lube/Grease	\$	577.37
RSM US LLP	Network Support	\$	4,200.00
Secure Shred Solutions	Paper Shredding	\$	26.00
Spencer Municipal Utilities	Fiber Lease	\$	450.00
Stuart C. Irby	Supplies (Markers)	\$	521.63
Treasurer, State of Iowa	Unclaimed Property	\$	726.44
US Card Systems	Credit Card Terminal Lease	\$	29.95
Verizon	Wireless Phone Service	\$	206.68
Webster County Treasurer	Property Taxes	\$	390.00
Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield	Group Health Insurance	\$	14,249.05
Woodbury County Treasurer	Property Taxes	\$	1,585.50
Zcorum	Truvision Fees	\$	261.08
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>311,696.97</b>

Electric Expenses	\$	252,329.88
Communications Expenses	\$	59,367.09
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>311,696.97</b>

Trustees reviewed the Utility Funds Report, Income Statement, and Balance Sheet for September 2023. Motion by Trustee Storms and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to authorize the Investment Committee to reinvest Treasury 91282CAP6 upon maturity. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to approve the renewal of our group health insurance plan with Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield through Woodley Insurance. The renewal goes into effect on December 1, 2023 and runs through November 30, 2024. The Utility will be staying with the same health plan code and drug code. The Utility will continue to partially self-fund the group health insurance plan as follows:

\$2,500 / \$5,000	Deductibles	\$250 / \$500
\$5,000 / \$10,000	Out-Of-Pocket Maximum	\$1,000 / \$2,000
\$8 / \$35 / \$50	Drug Plan	\$8 / \$25 / \$40

Single coverage monthly premium will be \$818.56. Family coverage monthly premium will be \$2,046.48. Employees with Family coverage will continue to pay 8% of the difference between the family and single premium. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to approve the renewal of our group dental insurance plan with Blue Dental through Woodley Insurance. The renewal goes into effect on December 1, 2023 and runs through November 30, 2024. The Utility will be using dental plan Code DG000102. Single coverage monthly premium will be \$45.84. Family coverage monthly premium will be \$151.10. Employees with Family coverage will continue to pay the difference between the family and single premium. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Storms and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve the renewal of our Group Life, AD&D, Short-term, and Long-term Disability insurance plan with Principal through Woodley Insurance. The renewal goes into effect on January 1, 2024 and runs through December 31, 2024. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Storms and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve DGR Engineering's Task Order for our consideration of additional fuel storage and fuel system modifications. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to approve the Remote Vendor Connection Security Policy. The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and requirements for secure connections between our organization and remote vendors or third-party entities requiring access to our network and systems. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on solar generation and the potential incentives and grants that are available. It was decided that due to the funding incentives out there, it would be prudent for us to continue our research on this. No specific action was taken at this time.

Discussion was held on the Agreement for Services from Frontier Energy. They are proposing to conduct funding support services and full grant writing assistance on available funding opportunities through the Inflation Reduction Act and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for potential utility-scale solar development. No specific action was taken at this time.

The Trustees and General Manager went over the current 2023 calendar year budget and the proposed 2024 calendar year budget.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to conduct a public hearing to amend the current calendar year 2023 budget at the Municipal Building on November 28, 2023, beginning at 3:00 p.m. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to conduct a public hearing on the proposed calendar year 2024 budget at the Municipal Building on November 28, 2023, beginning at 3:00 p.m. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Trustee Storms introduced the following Resolution entitled "Memorial Resolution for Richard Main" and moved that the Resolution be adopted. Trustee Runneberg seconded the motion to adopt. The roll was called, and the vote was,

Ayes: Runneberg and Storms

Nays: None

Chairman Pro Tem Storms declared the following Resolution duly adopted:

LAURENS MUNICIPAL POWER & COMMUNICATIONS  
MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Richard Main was a valued member of the Board of Trustees of Laurens Municipal Power & Communications, and

WHEREAS, Richard Main became a member of the Board of Trustees in 2005 and served continually until June 2023, and

WHEREAS, Richard Main's judgment, leadership, and understanding of the Utility operations have served to carry on a successful enterprise by and for the citizens of Laurens, and  
WHEREAS, Richard Main always demonstrated a spirit of cooperation and generosity that has benefited the Utility, citizens, and businesses of Laurens and is recognized by all, and

WHEREAS, Richard Main's commitment to excellence, his loyalty and dedication to his family, and to Laurens Municipal Power & Communications will be long remembered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Laurens Municipal Power & Communications, Laurens, Iowa do hereby unanimously express our deepest sorrow at the loss of Richard Main on October 4, 2023 and wish to convey our sincere sympathy to his family.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be given to the family of Richard Main so that they will be informed of the high esteem in which he was held by this utility and community, and also to express our appreciation for the opportunity and honor to have known and been associated with such an outstanding gentleman of distinction who will long be remembered and missed by all.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution become a part of the permanent record in the minutes of Laurens Municipal Power & Communications at its meeting on October 23, 2023.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2023.

There being no further business, the Chairman Pro Tem declared the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Ben Storms

Chairman Pro Tem, Board of Trustees

ATTEST: Chad Cleveland  
Secretary, Board of Trustees